

**Better Homes**  
and Gardens

25c

**Successful Farming**

# do-it-yourself ideas for your **garage**

**How to . . .**

- Install sliding doors
- Build your own garage
- Make more storage
- Remodel for "extra" living space



**EFFINGHAM BUILDERS SUPPLY CO.**

So. 2nd and National Sts. Phone 485

Effingham, Illinois

## BEFORE



Old garage was an eyesore; it was not being used (see page 38)

## AFTER



The remodeled garage makes comfortable a home (see page 39)



*Better Homes & Gardens*

*Successful Farming*

# **Do-it-yourself ideas for your GARAGE**

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# BUILD YOUR OWN GARAGE



## Before

Here you are looking at a future garage. The materials were bought to harmonize with the owner's house in the background. The step-by-step photographs and drawings on following pages show construction of an 18x24-foot frame garage





# AND SAVE

**N**ew car too big for your old garage? Living in a garage-less home and stymied by the high cost of housing your family bus? Here's a way you can have a frame garage without upsetting the family budget.

You save money by: first, not including some generally wanted but unessential features; second, doing the work yourself, or with as much help as you can muster.

You can do without a concrete floor. Add it later if you wish. And you don't have to sink concrete foundations below frost level for a structure such as a garage.

Creosoted posts cost less than concrete footings, yet they provide adequate and long-lasting support. You can omit wiring and other extras now—and add them later.

## *How to lay out, level, and sink the foundation posts*

### ← **After**

Here you are looking at the completed garage, its relationship to the owner's house and to the crushed-stone driveway and the final grading. Because this garage was built over a low spot, the garage floor was raised eight inches higher than the level of the street. This done, there was no fear of water accumulating on the lot. The garage was the owner's initial experience in carpentry



### **First step: Staking out**

Drive temporary corner stakes to locate position of walls and floor. Here, a long 2x4, held level, establishes floor level by transferring the 8-inch height above street to a front-corner stake. Rear-corner stake is driven to the same height. A cord, stretched across both of the stakes at right angles to street, facilitates positioning of corner posts more accurately

### Leveling posts

To even up first pair of corner posts at floor height, use same method of holding a long 2x4 straightedge level. Picture shows how deeply the lot slopes down from the street. Fill was added after, rather than before, garage was built. Advantages: you can dig the holes deeper in solid soil with post-hole auger; longer posts can be used



### Digging post holes

Auger is used to dig holes between the corners. The sills in the background lie on the first two corner posts and on the stakes, representing the third and the fourth corners. The sills form a rectangle which determines the position of the remaining corner posts. To get right-angle corners, mark the edges 6 and 8 feet apart, respectively, from the corner. Length between marks will be 10 feet from right angle

### Creosoting posts

Six-inch cedar posts support garage adequately if set in solid ground below the frost level and spaced six feet apart. The outside edges of the posts should line up with the outside edges of the walls. Though usually naturally resistant to decay, cedar posts last still longer if they are coated with creosote. Set the posts in a pail of creosote, and then brush the preservative on liberally over the entire post





### Checking level

Check with a straightedge and level to get posts same height. If tops are not flat, saw off true before setting posts. Dig holes to exact depth to reduce loose dirt. Compact hole bottoms by tamping, creosote sills, and nail sills to posts with 20d. nails



### *How to frame side and end walls and floor*

#### Framing, positioning wall

Assemble first side-wall frame on ground. Space the studs 24 inches apart on the centers. Raise the frame and nail it to sill member on the posts. Nail braces (pivoted at 1) to sills when the level (placed at 2) shows the frame side is plumb. Following this, nail the brace (figure 3) to inside of studs when the level (4) indicates ends are plumb



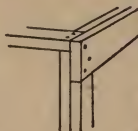


### Raising second side wall

The opposite side frame goes up in the same way as the first. Get two helpers to raise and hold it while you check plumb and nail sill and braces. Front and rear frames fit between the side frames. Nail adjoining corner studs with 20d. nails to form an L-shaped cross section; add third stud at corners

### Framing door opening

Frame the door opening with double studs on the sides, and a sturdy header at the top. Make it from two 2x6s nailed together and set on edge. The side wall frame has double studs at corner, with the outside stud cut short to take the end of a header



### Tar paper, siding

Tack the lowest strip of tar paper along its upper edge to the studs. Start siding flush with underside of sill, nailing it on with 9d. casing nails. Set nail heads in slightly for calking. Second tar-paper strip overlaps first. Cut the siding off square for snug joints midway over the studs. The joints of any of these adjacent boards should be on different studs





### **Cross-tie joists**

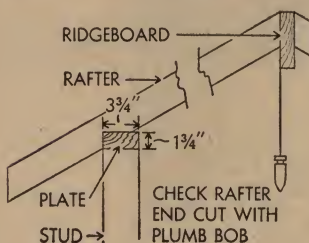
To offset roof's outward thrust, 2x4 cross-tie joists tie side walls together. Space joists 48 inches apart on centers, except at the ends where the plates serve the same purpose. Toenail the joists to the plates with 10d. nails, and cut joists' upper corners off

### **Installing the girder**

Install a temporary 2x4 girder (1) under joists' center. Support it with a 2x4 post (2) and other braces. Girder supports joists and planks laid across for you to stand on when nailing rafters to ridgeboard. Nail 2x6s together and to studs at front and rear



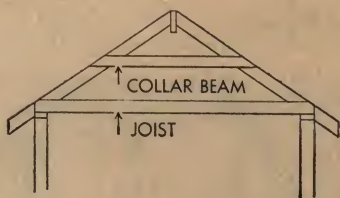
## *How to go about the framing of the roof*



### **Nailing end rafters**

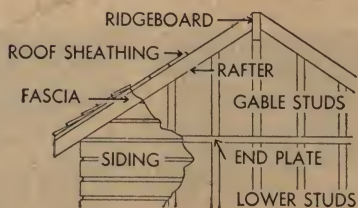
Cut and nail the front and rear end rafters. Their sides come flush with outer edge of plates. Roof's pitch determines angle to cut rafter ends, and angle of notches to get three-inch contact with plates. Temporary brace (see arrow, drawing) helps the end rafters support the ridgeboard





### Finishing rafters

Check ridgeboard for level as you add rafters. Align rafters in pairs, spaced 24 inches on centers, varying spacing of alternate pairs slightly to fit against the joists. Toenail rafters to ridge and plates with 10d. nails. Nail them to joists with 16d. nails. Using 16d. nails, nail beams halfway between the joists and ridge



### Finishing gables

Fit gable studs between end plates and end rafters. Siding ends come flush with upper edge of rafters. Miter fascia at ridge, nail over siding. Edges of bands at gables project above rafters to depth of roof sheathing



## *How to install the doors and windows*

### **Installing doors**

You'll have no difficulty installing overhead doors by following manufacturer's directions. Although they cost more than hinged doors, you'll find a sliding door more economical in the long run. It will last longer because it's not subjected, so much, to the stresses and the strains that cause damage to your hinged doors



### **Installing windows**

Windows may be narrow ones, set between studs, or of standard width. Frame the openings before applying the siding. Here, 2x4 crosspieces, nailed at slight angle between the studs, provide support for the sash. Sill is notched to fit over center stud. The strips, nailed vertically to studs, hold sash in position, let them slide up

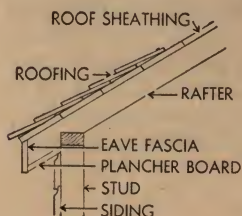




## *How to sheathe and shingle the roof*

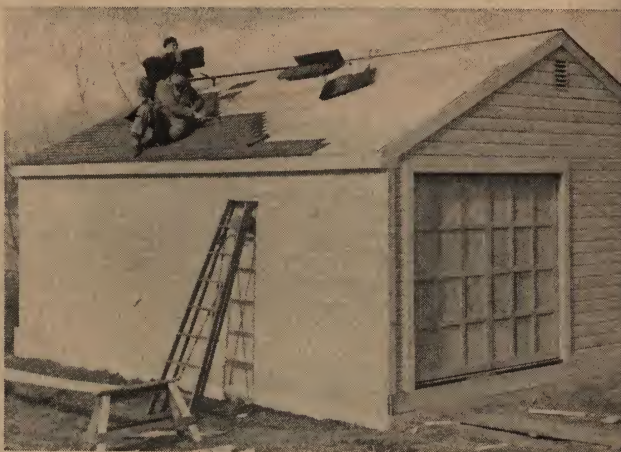
### **Sheathing**

Mark rafters with jig held against siding and saw off ends. Fit eave band and nail to rafter ends. Plane band's top edge to roof pitch. First roof board overlaps eave band. Then, nail sheathing to the rafters with 8d. nails



### **Shingling**

Lay lowest course over a starter strip for double thickness. Overlap shingles  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch at eaves,  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch at gables for "drip edge." Drive one-inch galvanized roofing nails in  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch above each shingle slot, and one inch on each side of shingle's center line. Slots come midway over the shingles of course below



### **Filling and grading**

In economizing with an earth fill and a crushed-stone topping for the floor, add more stone as the fill settles. Here, the boards nailed outside the foundation posts held inside fill. When the fill had settled, the boards were removed, and the outside fill was added



## Hints for garages:

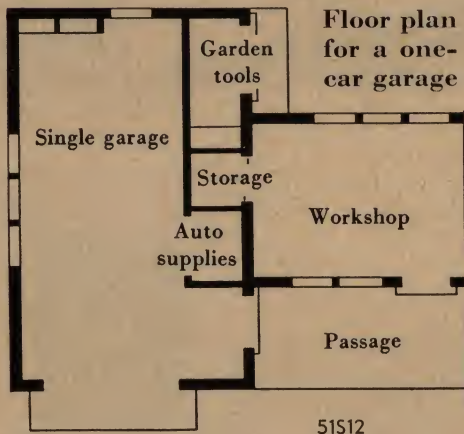
# SINGLE OR DOUBLE

The garage plan shown here was designed with one thought in mind. The plan had to fit any type of house, whether built as a single or double garage. It does just that. Regardless of the type of house you have, this plan can be made to fit it. But, if you don't want an attached garage, this plan (51S12), designed by Keith Hinchcliff, works equally well for a garage separated from the house.

Whether to build the single or double unit depends upon the number of cars you have. If you have only one car, and live in a rural area, you may want the double garage to house the truck or to serve as an overflow machine shed. Or,

### Single garage plan

This garage is added easily to a one-story house. Covered passage from house to garage is handy in bad weather. A large amount of storage space is provided, and workshop may be used for many purposes. Garden tools may be kept in back entrance





if you need a laundry room, you may want to use one-half of the double garage for that purpose. A good-sized workshop, however, is included in the attached garage plan.

A heated garage used to be considered quite a luxury, but actually you can heat your garage with little extra cost. A heated garage is a good place to make your machinery and handyman repairs during the winter when you have spare moments. The plan shown below includes a heater flue in the workshop area. With only a small amount of additional work, you can have this same convenience in the remainder of the garage.

Of frame construction, this garage was designed as inexpensively as possible. As is the case in all other buildings, the foundation is an important part of a garage. This plan calls for a 2'4" footing, or, depending on your geographical location, to below the frost line in your locality. The floor is 4" concrete poured over 4" of gravel fill. Sixteen-inch bolts are used to tie the sill to the footing.

The plan on this page is available at lumber dealers who handle *Successful Farming* Farm and Home Building Plans.



# MAKE AN OVERHEAD GARAGE

**W**ant to modernize your garage with an easy-to-handle overhead door? You can buy a handsome preassembled unit ready for installation, of course. Or, if you are especially partial to the "I-made-it-myself" projects, you can build your own overhead garage door. You'll need only a few hand tools. If you use special overhead-door hardware, your building project shouldn't take more than a single weekend, and your home-built door will be durable, easy to operate.

Your first step will be to take certain measurements—to estimate the amount of material you'll need. Measure the width and height, remembering that the door must swing through the doorway. The height always will be the distance from the highest point of the floor to the bottom of the plate over the opening.

Buy 2x4 pine lumber for the door's outside frame, and enough 2x2 lumber to form three intermediate supports in each direction. Enough 3/16-inch tempered hardboard for eight panels to cover the inside and the outside faces of the door also will be necessary. In addition to this lumber, you will need waterproof glue, three pounds of threepenny galvanized siding nails, a half pound each of eightpenny and tenpenny common nails, the hardware to hinge the door, and the necessary paint for the exterior walls.

**T**he hardboard panels should be pre-expanded, if possible. Twenty-four hours before you nail them to the framework, cut them to size and put cold water on the screen side, scrubbing well with a broom or a stiff brush. After the color has turned a dark brown, stack the panels, the screen sides together, and then cover the stack to prevent evaporation. Then, during this conditioning period, cut and assemble the framework lumber. In the pictures on the following three pages you will find various "how to" pictures that will help in building your own overhead garage door.



# DOOR

## Ventilation

Before nailing them in place, drill each of the short 2x2 crosspieces with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch bit. Drill the holes so they will provide ventilation into each section of the framework, to prevent moisture condensation on the crosspieces.

The short 2x2s, like the longer ones, are nailed through diagonal drill holes. In addition, bore holes through the top and the bottom rails at the spots that will admit air to each section.



## Framework

Cut  $2 \times 3\frac{3}{8}$ -inch notches in each end of the vertical 2x4s to form the shoulder joints. After truing the angles with a square, glue and nail the frame together, using three tenpenny nails at each of the joints.

Then nail three 2x2s the length of the framework, evenly dividing the width. Drill diagonal holes at ends of these members so you can toenail them securely into the frame with eightpenny nails.





### **Attaching the panels**

Step number one: Spread glue over the first section to be covered and over the hardboard where it will contact the framing. Step number two: Lay the panel in place; then fasten with siding nails every three inches. Do the same with each panel, bringing the edges to close, but not tight, contact. Saw two-inch batten strips of hardboard for the outside joints, and finally, glue them and nail them securely in place

### **Fitting the door**

Prop the door in place on small blocks. Mark the locations of hardware and make final adjustments. Two types of hardware are available; one operates with a spring, the other with weights. This hardware includes a handle and lock. Here the roller unit is being bolted to the door framework so that it is in alignment with the track previously installed







### Applying the hardware

In applying the hardware, follow the manufacturer's directions carefully. After the installation, the parts should be adjusted according to the direction sheet. Here, having been fitted and put in place, the door will be ready for painting and for use—following an adjustment of the tension on the spring (as shown)

### Finishing the door

When you have assembled and installed the door, test it further for smoothness of operation before you paint it. A high-quality primer and at least two coats of exterior paint will assure you a handsome, durable finish. Hardboard panels must be dry before paint is applied



# Looking for GOOD GARAGE STORAGE?

**"A** place for everything, everything in its place"—that's the theme of this carport storage wall.

Instead of one unbroken stretch of catchall space, here's storage divided into smaller units—and look how successfully it's been done!

There's a unit for garden and lawn tools, for outdoor eating equipment, for camping and fishing gear, and for luggage. Above the workbench you find the space for the hand tools. And fixed to the overhead rafters are the brackets that store the ladders when they're not being used. There's also handy space for small seasonal items.

Storage space is planned to match the size of the items—and to give you the best protection for them.

**G**ood garden tools, kept clean, oiled, and in top working condition, can mean the difference between "a yard" and "the nicest place on the block" for you.

You'll find it easier to keep your tools—and your temper, as well—in order if you arrange your tools so that every one has its own spot within easy reach.

Here we have listed for you nine excellent plans for storing your tools. Certainly any of them can be adapted to your special needs. See how safely the sharp-edged ones are stored. Notice what keeps the long handles from falling, and how compactly the bulky and wheeled tools are fitted in the plan.

But before you begin hammering, you must decide just where you can use these ideas most conveniently.

**We have found it best to:**

- Put the *lawnmower* and other large, heavy pieces out from underfoot, but as near the doorway as possible.
- Keep the *dusts* and the *sprays* in a waterproof place.
- Store the *wheelbarrow* with a clothesline and use a convenient snap clip "safety belt" to hold it securely against the wall.

[ Turn to page 22



### With doors closed

With the compartment doors closed and locked, the carport wall gives no hint of the variety of tools and equipment that it stores. Convenience and maximum space result from adjusting the storage to size and frequency of use of specific items. Notice the ladders that are attached to the overhead rafters at the right. Does this compare with your garage arrangement?



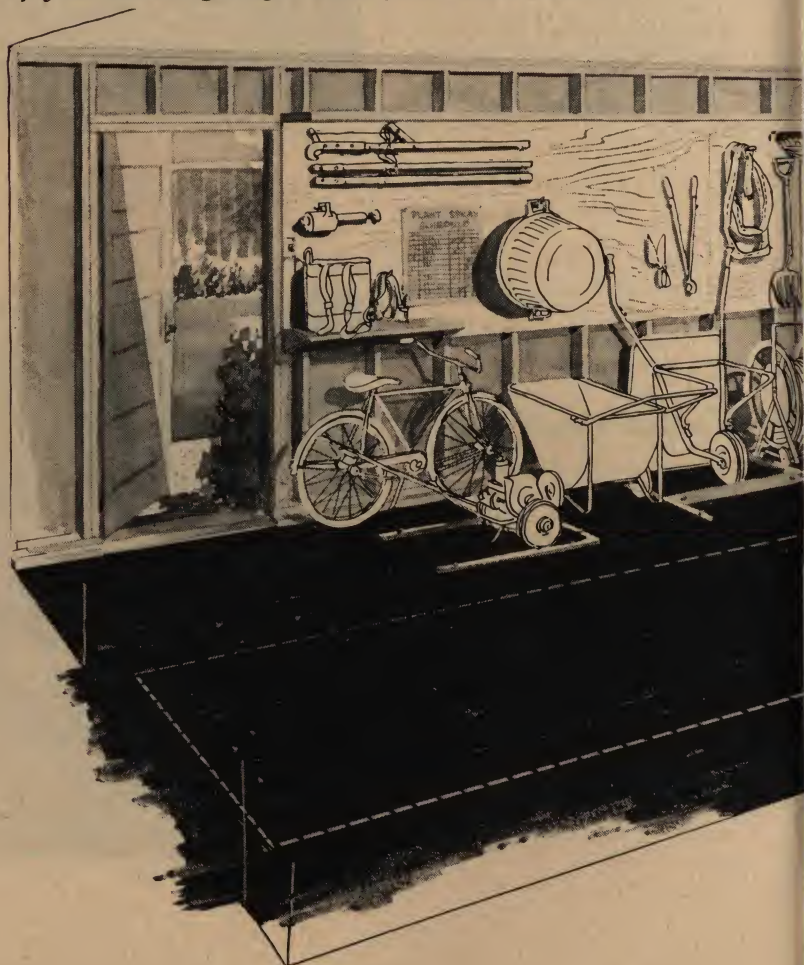
### With doors opened

Storage is studiously "categorized" here. The three largest units contain the outdoor eating items, the lawn and garden tools, and the camping equipment. Above the large cabinets is the space for luggage and for picnic items. In the closed top cabinets are found Christmas decorations, gift boxes, sports gear. Above bench are shop tools. Cabinets are of plywood

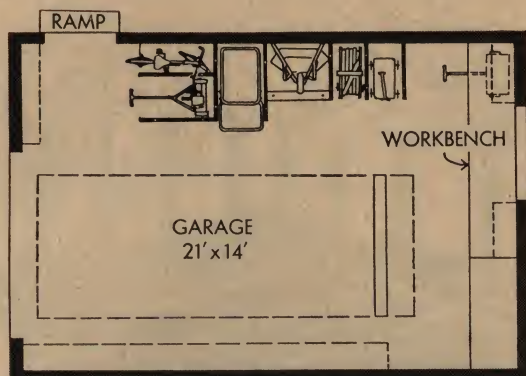


- Lock up *poisons* and *sharp tools*—if not stored too high for children to reach.
- Tuck the *spreader cart*, not used as often as some of the other tools, under your workbench. Keep the fertilizer sacks there, handy to the cart.
- Store the *electric trimmer* in a low place. Then, if it falls, it doesn't fall far enough to be badly damaged.
- Provide a stool for your *workbench*. Build the bench at your own best working height.
- Keep all *soil*, *sand*, *peat fertilizers*, and *trash* in bins or galvanized garbage cans or other large cans with lids.
- Mark off the areas that various pieces of equipment will occupy, so that each will have its special well-chosen space.

*If you own a garage, store your tools there*





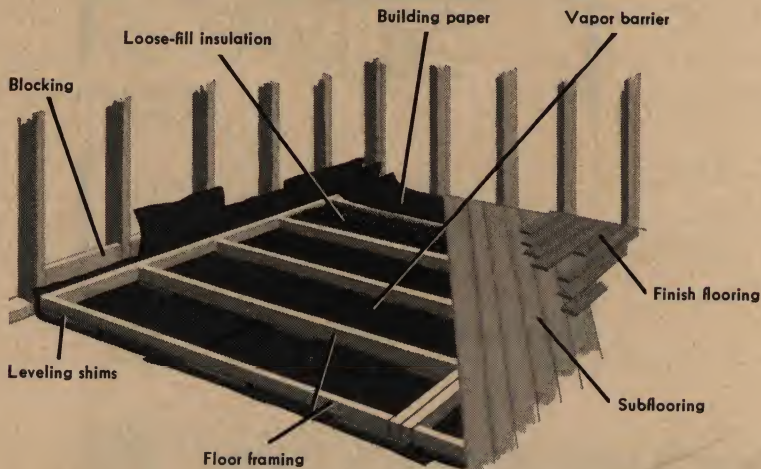


Drawings: Maggie Baylis

### Your car—and tools belong here

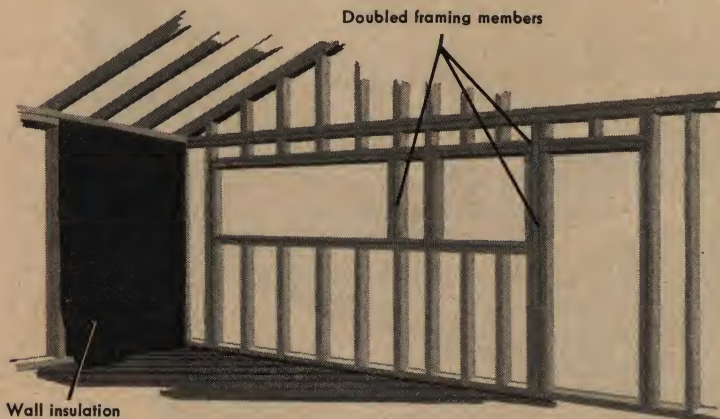
This garage is about average—it's 21x14 feet. The secret of its double duty as a storage house? Wood cleats on floor for easy rolling of wheeled tools, a backboard of hardboard, or plywood for hand tools, and handy painted tool outlines

# REMODEL your garage . . . .



## Installing a new floor

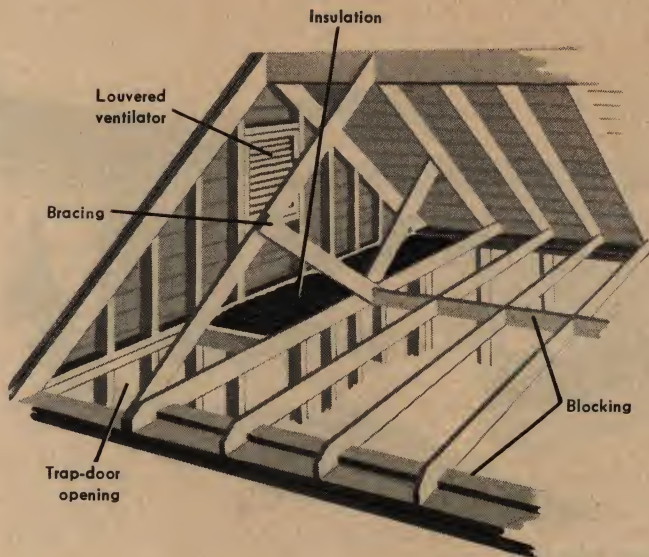
To install a comfortable floor over an uninsulated concrete slab, build section framework outside. Move into place over moistureproof barrier; nail to floor plate; level with shims; insulate; and lay the floor



## Weatherproofing garage door

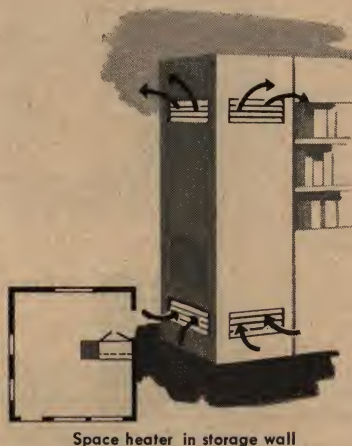
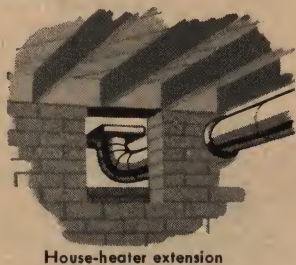
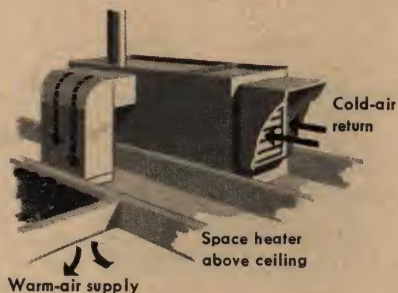
Although it's difficult to do this for year-round living, you can remove it and fill space with a new wall. Build wall on plate anchored to concrete floor; caulk well; and finally, insulate side walls with vapor barrier





### Installing a new ceiling

You may have to add tie beams and bracing. Nail on thin panel board. Leave an access door; pour in loose-fill insulation above ceiling. Louvered vent above ceiling helps in summer, winter



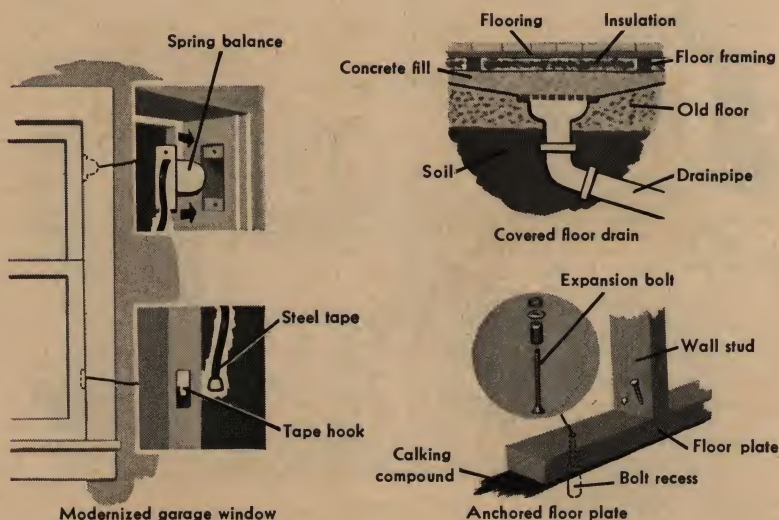
### Check the heating facilities

Often an extension from the house heating plant is the best answer (drawing, lower left). Perhaps you can install a small attic heating plant (top), or put a small heater right in the room (see drawing right)



### Fix up your driveway

What can you do about the driveway, now that it's no longer used for that purpose? Tearing it out and resodding it can be costly, so why not use it as a terrace? By using plant boxes and vine-covered sunshades you'll get privacy. Use the rest of it for convenient off-street parking



### Windows and floor plates

If you have windows without weights, installing spring balances and weatherstripping will help you greatly. Should there be a floor drain, take special care in sealing it off. If this isn't done, you'll have to keep replacing the water seal to keep out the unpleasant sewer odors

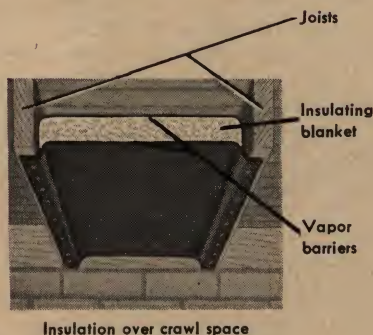
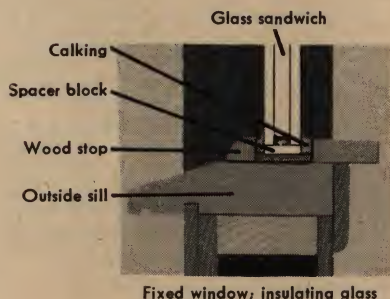
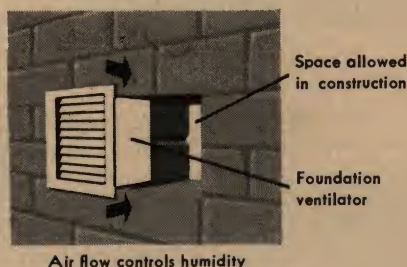
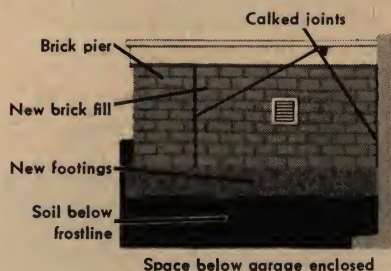


**W**hether a garage or a carport is involved, the structural remodeling problems usually will be the same for most buildings when ground-level additions or enclosures are made. You have the problem of making weatherproof the walls of already semienclosed areas. You have the problem of laying a comfortable and insulated floor, of a good-looking, finished ceiling, and of effective year-round heating. You have the problems of proper lighting facilities and of an inexpensive but efficient ventilating system.

There are many different kinds of solutions to these problems. On the previous pages we've shown you ideas for ground-level remodeling designed to make every inch of space under your roof usable.

When you begin using these areas for part of your everyday living, you'll wonder how you ever got along without the extra space before. How you build, remodel, and decorate your garage area is going to have a lot to do with how much you enjoy it. Remember, these space-giving spots lend themselves to original building and remodeling ideas.

On the following pages we'll show you examples, and give you "how-to" plans for re-doing your garage. Follow one of these ideas—and you'll never recognize your old garage.



# Remodel your garage **AND**

**M**ost of us still don't think of a garage as a basic part of a comfortable home. Sure, we've moved our cars out of the stable, which odors and flies made us place as far away from the house as possible. We've even succeeded in making the garage architecturally a part of the house. But after we've spent long evenings planning our new heating system or our kitchen, we're likely to toss off the equally important garage with the remark, "Let's *try* to have a two-car garage." Not until we've moved in do we realize how much annoyance a little more forethought would have saved.

We can't tell you how to plan *your* garage. The most satisfactory car shelter for you, like the most satisfactory house, is designed to fit *your* needs. You have to figure out for yourself what you want.

Start off by asking yourself the question, "Do we really need a garage?" Maybe *you* don't, particularly if you live in a warm climate. So how about a carport? There are three advantages to this kind of car shelter: (a) it's cheaper than a garage; (b) it doesn't shut out light or air; and, (c) it can't become a catchall.

**B**ut if you decide you *do* want a garage, ask yourself another question: "What can our garage do for us besides store the car?" If you build a carport, it can double as a covered porch and play space. That's about all. But if it's a garage, possibilities are limited only by your needs and your budget.

Your garage can compensate for what is often a small house's biggest disadvantage—lack of space for hobbies, recreation, and storage. In a roomy garage you can have a woodworking corner, a darkroom, a place for table tennis. If your house is two stories high, perhaps you can have a small second floor over the garage for a playroom, club-room, study, or extra bedroom. Or you can have a flat roof and use it as a sun deck. In a basementless house, a garage can save the day when it comes to space for storage of all kinds of odds and ends.

Like a carport, a garage can be a porch also. If you have a pleasant view on one side, build that side with removable panels that you can replace with screens in the summer. Or do the same with both sides, or a side and an end, and let the breeze sweep through. But whatever you do, don't think of the garage only as a place to keep the car!



# MAKE IT DO DOUBLE DUTY:

**A workroom**



**A place for a terrace**



**A hobby room**



**A teen-age activity room**

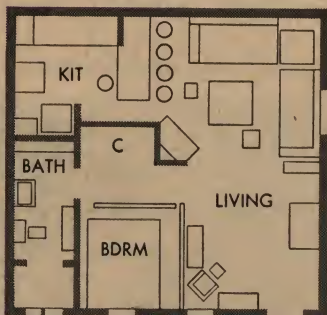


## *From garage into an apartment*

**Y**ou would consider a 20x20-foot garage a poor possibility for ideal living. True, it isn't the most spacious home. But for a low-cost place to live as a family, this two-car garage does make an attractive and comfortable—although small apartment home.

With a minimum of money, the owners did their own carpentry, plumbing, wiring, and painting. The damp, oily floor and thin walls were a problem—they are in any garage transformation. The floor was scrubbed, thinly coated with cement, then covered with building paper. Over this went 2x4s, and between them, granular insulation. Then pine sheathing was applied as flooring, covered with linoleum. For openness, only partitions were of tile-scored hardboard used to enclose the bath.

An inner wall was put up inside the double garage doors. The thin siding was batt-insulated all around, and plaster-board was applied. To save money, the wallboard was pre-finished in mahogany and walnut.



### **Kitchen is compact**

The shelves behind the curtains serve as cupboard space. Three apple crates, one atop another, with a few added shelves, stand on the opposite wall (see floor plan above), with refrigerator, and serve as the pantry. The hinged board at left of the sink lowers for work-counter space





### **Open sleeping area**

In the partially open bedroom area, the springs and mattress are supported by drawers of an old filing cabinet for additional storage space. The bed can be shut off from the living area by closing the venetian blinds.

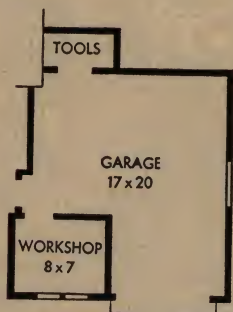


### **Living area runs entire width of apartment**

Drop ceiling and convenient eating bar separate the kitchen from the living section, yet preserve openness. Heater at left is centrally located. Ducts above and below closet provide the heat and cold-air return for the bathroom.

## *From garage into family room*

### **BEFORE**



### **Garage offers ideal remodeling possibilities**

This one-car garage opened directly on the street front, and took up more than 330 square feet of space on the ground floor. The driveway cut the lawn into small patches. A logical place to begin expansion

### **New eating area**

Kitchenette and bathroom behind the door at the right are enclosed by the same walls that originally partitioned off the home workshop from the garage. New plan makes a second living room possible





#### AFTER



#### Spacious family room now is a reality

A large picture window and low wall make handsome replacements for garage doors. Window at side has become a Dutch door leading from new drive into family room. New two-car garage has a workshop and extra space for storage

#### Family room

Window looks out over enlarged front lawn to street. The wall at right separates this comfortable conversation nook from new kitchenette. Fireplace is opposite window, lends informal mood to family room



## *From garage into guest house*

With building costs high and new floor space at a premium, more and more families are finding that it's necessary to live, dine, sleep, and pursue their hobbies where they used to keep the family car. This conclusion makes good sense, too. It's an established fact that remodeling an already-enclosed garage or carport is a great deal less costly than building a new wing onto the house. The openness of a single- or two-car garage that is handy and available invites partitioning to meet your own specific needs. A great deal depends on your geographical location, however, for in Southern areas a garage often isn't as necessary as it is in the North.



A 9½-foot addition beyond former garage door frame made space for new living area





### Living room is 14x8½ feet

Since the new addition covered one window of the main house, bookshelves were built into the opening. These shelves can be removed easily to provide space for a door later on

Ivan Burkhardt



### Bedroom has good storage space

The floor-to-ceiling storage wall runs the full length of the bedroom area. Notice also the mirror and fluorescent lighting in recess above the built-in dresser. The mirrored door to the right leads out to garden at rear



Gray area is new addition

# *From garage into your permanent home*

## **BEFORE**



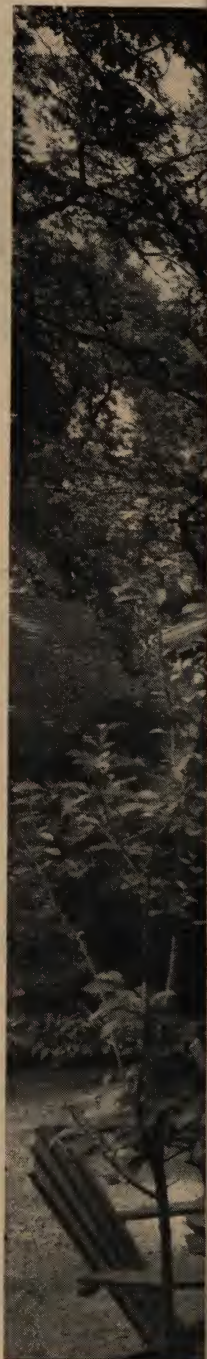
### **Garage area was being wasted . . .**

Opening for the garage doors (above) provided a wide expanse for large, fixed window (right). Doors open on terrace from kitchen and the living room. Upstairs quarters had bath, three rooms, which became bedrooms and study

## **AFTER**

### **. . . until carpenter performed his magic**

It's difficult to believe, isn't it, that these pictures show the same structure? It goes to prove that, with ingenuity and time, a garage can become more than just a useless backyard eyesore—or a stopgap home

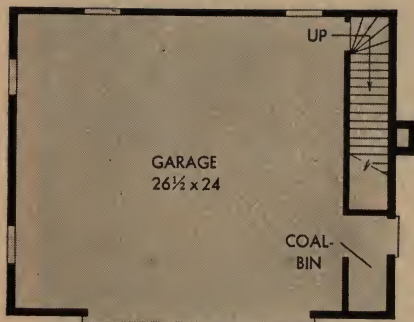






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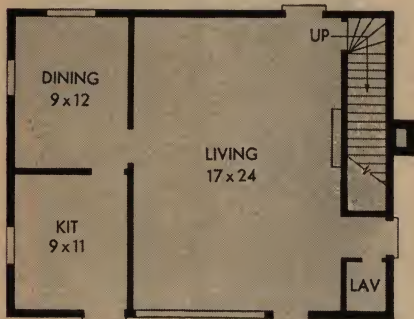
## BEFORE



### Original garage plan

With over-all dimensions of just 30x32½ feet, this garage contained more than adequate space for the owners' needs. Fortunately, the walls formed a rectangle, a stairway was handy, and second floor was usable

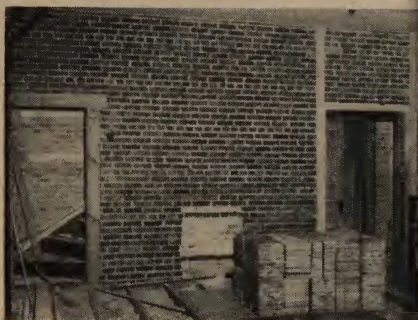
## AFTER



### Remodeled first floor

Here you see how the simple partitioning process converted the first floor into a living room, dining room, and kitchen. The three bedrooms are on the second floor. The new plan is functional and comfortable

## BEFORE



## BEFORE



## BEFORE





**AFTER**

**Living room (back)**

Workmen laid 2x8 sleepers on concrete floor, filled air space with insulation. They broke through brick wall for fireplace, connecting it with the existing flue. Finished living room is paneled



**AFTER**

**Dining partition**

Bricks were knocked out of workshop area to form large window. Egg-crate divider gives a feeling of space and lets in light to dining room. Shelves are six inches deep, with storage area beneath



**AFTER**

**Living room (front)**

Although the doors' opening made logical frame for a view window, driveway and nearby homes spoiled scene. Driveway was paved for terrace; a fence controls view and yet gives privacy

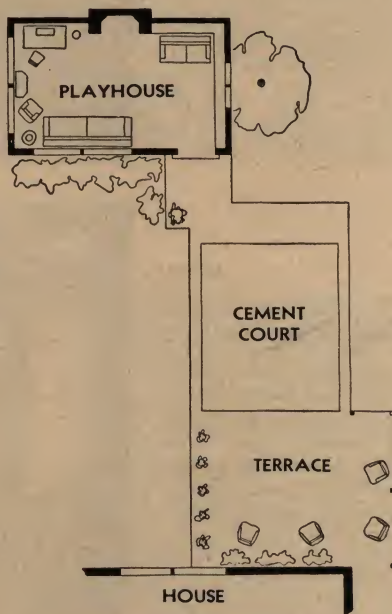


## *From garage into playhouse*

### **Family playhouse**

This playhouse, for the entire family, has double doors and a floor laid flush with the brick terrace. As a result, dancers can glide out on the terrace when the informal party overflows the playhouse area.

The terrace is put to good use, too. It was planned as a place to put a table-tennis table for outdoor use; also features privacy for outdoor living.



### **Place to "let off steam"**

Tucked away under the shade trees, this playhouse was built originally with teen-agers in mind, but serves as haven for grown-up hobbies, too





## *From garage into home, into garage*

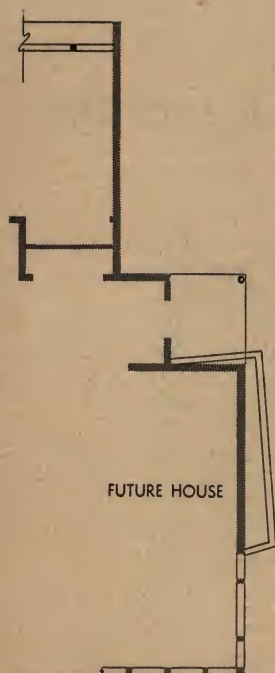
If you plan to build your home yourself, a wonderfully practical first step can be to build a garage, then live in it while you're building the house. The owners of this garage-home learned the techniques of building, by practice, on an inexpensive structure. Best of all, you can live on the site and take advantage of every spare minute to work on your permanent house without losing time in travel.

The project was planned thoroughly for the dual purpose in advance, too. Take the glass wall for example. When the owners move into their house, the glass wall goes along and fits into the living room. The kitchen cabinets eventually will move from the garage kitchen into the real kitchen. And the plumbing hookup and bath, most expensive items in garage, will be used when a third bedroom is built near garage.

### **Today a living room—tomorrow a garage**

Here's the comfortable and spacious living area that eventually will be used to shelter the family car. Garage doors will replace the wide windows. The wardrobe closet at the extreme left will be moved to make room for the future dark-room partition. At present the only permanently closed-off section in the garage is the bathroom, making the back-to-garage transformation easy, inexpensive





### Room dividers

Note the methods the owners used to divide open space into areas. Draperies on the track close off sleeping area. Divider marks separation of kitchen, living-dining sections. Kitchen, with its dual-sink unit, will be darkroom-workshop, eventually

de Gennaro



Living-sleeping area





The only permanent partition in the garage is the one enclosing the bathroom. Unfinished wall section (above bed) is behind the draperies which are used also to close off sleeping from living areas. The walls of two areas are painted different colors

*From garage into recreation room*

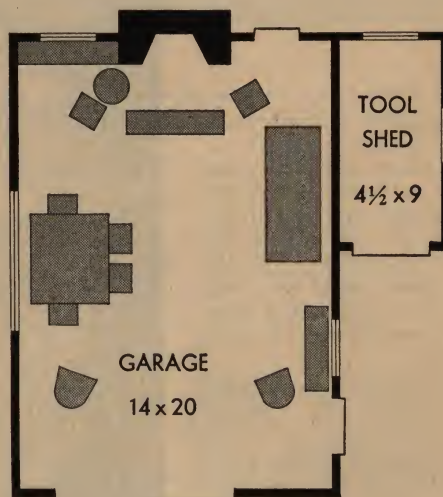






### Truly a double-duty garage

This garage was built originally with the idea of using it for warm-weather entertaining. During the winter months all you have to do is push the furniture back against the right wall, and there's plenty of free space for your automobile. The space between garage and house makes a fine terrace



### Game room, hobby room, and workshop, too

Leave the garage door up during the summer, and you've got another porch . . . and plenty of space for parties. This recreation room-garage is handy and practical for whole family



### **Mood informal**

Here's a cozy spot for the entire family—especially on those days in early spring or fall when there's a chill in the air. Pull the garage door down and light a roaring fire in the brick fireplace. You're all set with good, sturdy furnishings

### **Tool shed**

All of those necessary—and bulky—odds and ends that you usually find stored in a garage are placed in this handy tool shed. This relatively small shed was built right into side of garage, keeps everything in place



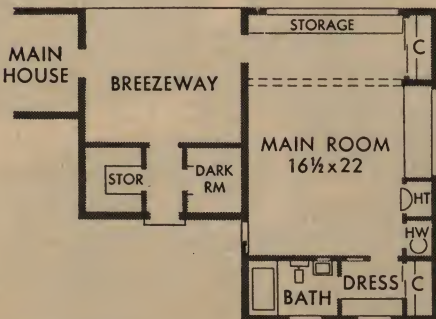


## *From garage into living-bedroom*



### **Converted garage has become part of house**

Roofed-over breezeway and garage now form important part of house. Rear of lot is better looking than front, as bricks replace garage door, and windows are placed in back



### **New garage plan**

Broken lines indicate the old rear wall. Breezeway contains darkroom, cupboard



### **Garage (before)**

The garage had only part-time use in housing family car in mild Arizona



### **Storage space, windows cover back wall**

The rear wall of the garage was moved back to increase the size of the new living-bedroom. This new wall features a large window that overlooks the garden in back, extensive shelves and cabinets. Owner's privacy is assured

de Gennaro

### **Main room (front)**

Except for one small window, the side of the room facing the house is walled off for privacy. Wall, back of easel, partitions off dressing room and bath. This wall is finished with combed plywood applied horizontally. For economy and to increase feeling of space, the roof beams are left exposed to view







### **Bathroom area is at front**

Combination bath-dressing room is in the front part of the remodeled garage. Windows over built-in chest of drawers and in bath replace garage doors. Woodwork and fixtures are gray; accessories are yellow

### **Useful built-ins**

Built-in desk neatly fills an under-window niche between clothes and utility closets. Clothes closet at left is full wardrobe side, has spacesaving sliding doors. The utility closet at right conceals the space-heating unit that's flanked by domestic water tank unit

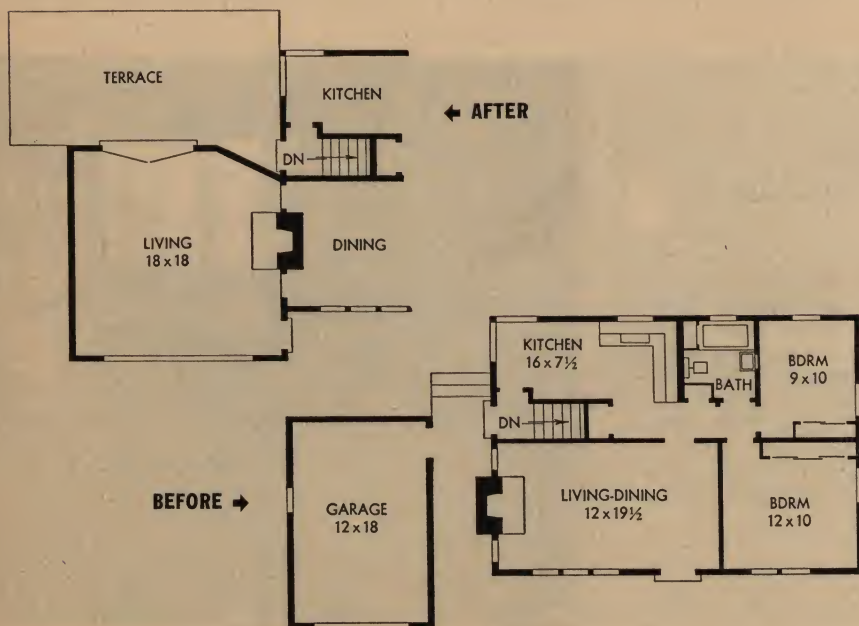


## *From garage into living room*

If you haven't a porch to enclose, or an old storeroom to rejuvenate, look for space where this Salt Lake City family did—in the garage. They made only simple structural changes, putting a tile floor over the previous cement one, replacing the garage door with a picture window. They turned the fireplace—which faced their original living room—around, and eliminated the breezeway. As a result, a new 18x18-foot living room was made.

When they remodeled, the owners also moved closer to the out-of-doors. French doors from the new living room now lead onto the back terrace. The kitchen also has access to the terrace for the easy serving of summer meals. A trellis at the outside edge of the terrace screens it from the breeze and from the eyes of neighbors.

A new, inexpensive garage was added farther back on the lot. When you compare the “before” and “after” floor plans, you'll see why it's much easier and less expensive to expand into an old garage area than it is to buy a new, bigger home.







### **New living room**

Interior of the new room is finished with pine paneling, and ceiling beams are exposed. Tile floor was laid over garage floor. The French doors leading to terrace create an excellent outdoor-indoor tie-in

### **Windows help make the transformation complete**

A spacious new living room replaces former garage. The front and the rear walls were extended to the right to enclose the old breezeway that separated house and garage. Driveway was built to new garage in rear





## **You can build your own garage**

and save! Many postwar homes were built without a garage. It has been a source of concern for many homeowners, not only because it left the family car out in the weather, but also because it decreased much-needed storage areas. Therefore, many dealers have made a "package" garage—one that the homeowner could build himself, and by doing his own construction, save himself high labor costs.

## **More living space in your garage**

If your home has either an attached or a freestanding garage, it offers you an opportunity to increase the size of your home. Many homeowners have converted their garages into spacious living areas—dens, playrooms, TV rooms, and even into extra bedrooms. When the garage is enclosed, and attached through a sunroom, you get an extra room at a bargain price. This book on garages will help you in selecting the kind of remodeling job you want to do on your home. It tells how to start, how to draw the plan, and it suggests what materials will do the best job.

If your dealer doesn't have a "package" garage, he definitely can give you much advice and help with your garage problems. He can help in your basic planning; he can advise you in your choice of materials and equipment—whatever will suit your needs best. With his help, you can save enough money to begin a second remodeling project. You can turn your spare basement or attic into "extra" living space. Remember, your dealer can provide many moneysaving and timesaving services!



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